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PRESIDENT IS LABORING ON RUSS PROBLEM

Wilson Will Make Effort to Bring Order Out of Chaos Now Existing in Land of Slavs; Plans Message.

(By Review Leased Wire)
WASHINGTON, March 16.—First intimations from official sources that President Wilson possibly might soon make a statement bearing on the Russian debate came today.

Heretofore, statements that the president was preparing to address congress on the subject have been pure guess work. Today brought the first official intimation that the president in his close study of the situation has gotten to the point where he was thinking of such a course.

There is no official indication of the medium the president will choose or when he will choose it, but it is generally believed that as usual he will direct his statement to the world through an address to a joint session of congress.

Inferences drawn from statements by Sir Robert Cecil, British minister of blockade, Field Marshal Hindenburg and General Ludendorff that Germany might be proposing a peace at the expense of Russia, made peace talk in general no more popular in Washington than it has been at any time since the United States went to war. Officials are declining to make statements for the very reason that any sort of a statement would give comfort to a peace movement, gave unmistakable indications of how unworkable peace discussions were at this time.

This attitude of American officials found a highly interesting reflection in French dispatches giving accounts of the interviews recently given by Hindenburg and Ludendorff at German headquarters and publications in German newspapers of the situation on the eastern battle front.

An official dispatch today from Bern quotes a Berlin dispatch as declaring it was the eastern question which was the object of Hindenburg's recent conference with the emperor and the chancellor. The government is expected to make a statement next week on the situation. The government it is declared, is occupied with the result of conferences held between the leaders of the Polish activities and delegates from the majority in the Reichstag.

At these conferences there was planned an economic and political alliance between Poland and the Central Powers and even the conclusion of a military convention. The new policy would be unrelated to Prussian Poland and could expand in the east.

LIKE WILSON'S VIEW

(By Review Leased Wire)
LONDON, Friday, March 15.—Considerable space is devoted by the news papers to comment on the address made by Foreign Minister Arthur Balfour in the house of commons on the subject of Japanese intervention in Siberia.

The Manchester Guardian says: "If we are to help Russia, it can only be in cooperation with her government. President Wilson sees this clearly."

AMERICANS IN FINLAND HELD

(By Review Leased Wire)
STOCKHOLM, Thursday, March 14.—The report that the Germans are arresting Americans and English in Finland notwithstanding the fact that Finland is nominally a neutral country, is confirmed by Mrs. Henry Crosby Emery, whose husband now is in the hands of the Germans there. Mrs. Emery arrived from the Aland Islands today. She came on a Swedish ice breaker and reported that her husband, who was a member of a

40 FLYING FIELDS ARE ON PROGRAM

(By Review Leased Wire)
WASHINGTON, March 16.—With the erection of a construction division in the war department today to handle the largest single building program in history—aggregating \$108,400,000—a board of minor experts appointed by Acting Secretary Crowell reported that the present form of construction contract is "profitable proof."

The new construction division will replace the cantonment division which did the preliminary work of building national army camps, and will carry on an immense building program involving hundreds of thousands of workmen and extensive structures for the army throughout the country.

It will be under the immediate direction of the chief of staff. Headed by Professor A. N. Talbot, of the university of Illinois, president of the American society of civil engineers.

The work in prospect includes storage terminals at Boston, Philadelphia, and twenty-eight other points; signal corps cantonments and aviation fields at forty different points; tuberculosis hospital at Denver and Azalea, N. C.; mechanical repair shops in Texas and three great office buildings in Washington.

Amundsen Plans Dash for North Pole in Airship

(By Review Leased Wire)
NEW YORK, March 16.—Roald Amundsen, discoverer of the south pole, has not abandoned his plan to reach the north pole by the joint use of a specially constructed ship and an airplane, he announced upon his arrival here today from an extended visit to the American trenches in Europe. The trip to the western front was undertaken at the suggestion of the committee on public information and Captain Amundsen will tell American audiences in a series of lectures of conditions in the war zone and of the part American soldiers are taking.

Capt. Amundsen said he would be ready to start on his journey to the north pole in July and was anxious to return to his home in Christiania, Norway, where he has gathered supplies for a seven year trip and where the vessel which is to carry him and his party to the far north is being built.

The vessel, an auxiliary steamship is shaped like an egg. Captain Amundsen said, so that she may be lifted by the ice pressure and carried along with the northerly drifting currents toward the pole. Captain Amundsen's ship will carry no wireless, he said, because he does not want to hear any bad news from home. While in the United States he will try to obtain the services of a capable air pilot who will be taken along to guide the airplane which will be part of the expedition's equipment in the proposed flight across the pole.

BRITISH LOSSES LIGHT

(By Review Leased Wire)
LONDON, Thursday, March 14.—The British casualties reported for the week ending today numbered 3,562. They were divided as follows:

Killed or died of wounds, officers 52; men 823.

Wounded or missing, officers 148; men 2,539.

In the first week of March the casualties numbered 3,243, the lowest of any week for several months.

GENERAL SCOTT RELIEVED FROM OLD COMMAND

Now in Charge of Embarkation Cantonment at Camp Dix; Will Not See Active Service in France.

(By Review Leased Wire)
WASHINGTON, March 16.—Major General Hugh L. Scott, formerly chief of staff, today was ordered relieved of his command of the seventy-eighth (National Army) division at Camp Dix, N. J., and placed in command of the camp itself, which is to be made an embarkation camp. Brigadier General James T. Dean has been appointed temporarily to command the 78th division.

No official reason for the order was assigned. General Scott came to Washington this week for examination by the medical board appointed to determine the fitness of officers to hold commands on the fighting front in France and he understood that he had passed the test. Five other divisional commanders had been relieved of their commands earlier in the week because they failed to pass the physical examination.

Hard Blow to Scott
The general policy in the war department not to give fighting commands to officers who have reached the retirement age in the belief that when an officer has passed 62 years he is not qualified for the arduous duties which a command on the battle front entails, is believed to be the reason for the action taken. General Scott reached retirement age last September 22, on which date he relinquished the post of chief of staff but was called back into active service.

Friends of General Scott believed to-night that the orders of the department must have come as a severe blow to him as ever since the United States entered the war General Scott had been hoping for an opportunity to command an active division in the great struggle. He welcomed his relief as chief of staff because it opened the way for his being recalled for active service and assigned to a division. During his tour of inspection in France which followed his return from Russia, where he saw the last offensive undertaken by the Russian army launched, General Scott took every means to prepare himself for a command on the American sector.

Will Equip Troops
As commander at Camp Dix, General Scott will head a supplemental embarkation cantonment. The quarter-master's corps has found it necessary to have additional quarters available for the handling of troops en route to the front as the process of sending divisions forward is speeded up. All divisions are re-equipped completely with clothing and every other necessity at these embarkation cantonments before they go aboard ship. It has been understood that Camp Dix would be used for this purpose when the seventy-eighth division now training there has gone forward.

It is intended to have General Pershing return to this country in detachments of thirty the officers who in his opinion have assimilated the details of modern warfare from the actual association with front line operations on the American sector.

To Exchange Officers
The first increment will be from the officers who have been longest in France. These will be replaced by an equal number of officers trained here in general staff work and interchange of information would be established between the department and the fighting forces which officials would deem productive to smooth administration.

Presumably, qualified officers of General Pershing's staff who have been wounded or otherwise incapacitated for active duty at the front will be assigned wherever possible to duty in Washington during the period of recuperation, their services and experience thereby being of continuous value to the government. In this connection it was learned that in accord with the practice found desirable in Europe, incapacitated officers will be gradually placed in charge of all training units, replacement divisions and other military agencies and in the United States which require the supervision of trained military men. That process already has begun with the assignment of major generals physically unfit for service in France to divisions training in this country.

TO DISCUSS PEACE PACT
WASHINGTON, March 16.—An official dispatch today from Bern said the German Reichstag on Tuesday will discuss the treaty of peace with Russia, with chancellor Von Hertling and foreign minister Von Kuhlmann speaking for the government. On Wednesday the Reichstag is to vote on the new 15,000,000,000 marks loan with adjournment fixed for Friday.

ORDER MASSACRE
JASSY, Rumania, Friday, March 15.—After the Germans entered Odessa, on Wednesday, the Bolsheviks embarked on steamers for Sebastopol. Before leaving General Muraviev, Bolshevik commander in chief, ordered the massacre of officers, capitalists and bourgeoisie and demanded the payment of 20,000,000 rubles by the population of the city.

HOMES OF POOR IN PARIS ARE WRECKED BY GERMANS AIR RAIDERS' BOMBS, MORE THAN 100 ARE KILLED



View of several houses in poorer section of Paris after February air raid by Germans. The boche airmen do not often carry their frightfulness to Paris, as the risk is so great, but their recent raid caused the deaths of more than 100 residents in the poorer section of the French capital. Practically all the dead were women and children. The raid was of "military importance," said the Germans.

JAPAN TRYING TO SECURE PROMISE OF CHINESE AID

Nipponese Wound Bring Rival Factions in China Together So That Help Will Be Assured if Required.

TOKIO, Thursday, March 14.—When a week ago the possibility of Japanese intervention in Siberia became known and a flood of opinion from the western press poured into Japan, there was considerable excitement in the belief that speedy mobilization of the army and navy would be ordered. Extremists pictured airplanes over Tokyo and submarines from Vladivostok. The historical "Outs" in the diet heckled the government, and the newspapers were filled with contrary views, according to the interests or the imagination of those responsible or those not responsible for the situation.

Presently, however, the tone became quieter and it appeared possible to see more clearly the true Japanese outlook, which is characterized in many quarters as "entirely safe, sane and loyal."

Today virtually the entire responsible press of the capital is advocating intervention in Siberia in cooperation with the Chinese allies and China not directed against Russia, but as ally loyal to the Russians, wishing to save the country. One of the most outspoken papers is the Kokumin Shimbun, owned and edited by Ichiro Tokutomi, a close personal friend of the premier.

Japan realizes, it is authoritatively stated, that if the United States declines its support the situation will be extremely delicate because of the financial and material assistance that must come from America. Any feeling of distrust or unfriendliness seems to be lacking. As a matter of fact a large section of influential men in Japan favor the American viewpoint, while only a few chauvinists jeer at Premier Teracuchi and Foreign Minister Motono as being under American influence.

The Chinese problem is one of the most serious features. It is recognized that this is China's great opportunity, and Japan is urging the leaders to the north and south to settle their differences by a sound compromise, form a capable national government at Peking and join Japan and the allies in guarding the frontiers and helping Russia.

Some indications are manifest that this effort may be successful.

WOMAN IS HELD.
EL PASO, Texas, March 16.—Inquiries were made of soldiers about service ammunition, field rations and over highly technical military information by Catherine Smith who is under arrest charged with violating the espionage act. This was brought out at the preliminary hearing of the woman's case here late today. Witnesses testified she asked them for photographs of Fort Bliss and the surrounding camps, wanted to know how they lived in camp, and how long they remained on patrol duty and other military information.

A Spanish code was found among her effects and letters showing she had been in Denver and had visited coal mining towns of Colorado and New Mexico where federal officers say Austrians are employed. Her hearing was continued until Monday.

Baker Marvels At Great Work Done in France

ON BOARD SECRETARY BAKER'S SPECIAL TRAIN IN FRANCE, Thursday, March 14.—(By the Associated Press)—Secretary Baker's first work after his conferences with the French and American generals at the capital has been to begin his study of what the Americans are doing and ought to do in France by a survey of a great war department.

"I am still absorbing," said he at the end of a fourteen-hour day. "I must say frankly that I did not know the immensity of the project we are undertaking in opening new ports, and when I see what we have accomplished here I am satisfied."

Tries Out Guns.
At heavy artillery training camp Secretary Baker saw a battery of long range calibre guns put into position. They were swung over by automobile tractors and shallow recoil trenches were quickly dug, but with unerring methods. Mr. Baker took a stand close to one of the great pieces and followed the explanation of the major in command. It was one of the new guns from a French workshop and of a type with which the American artillerymen are already making a reputation on the front.

The secretary had been told by French officers of the skill of the American gunners in handling this weapon, in the management of which the French artillerymen heretofore had considered themselves unexcelled. Mr. Baker became so interested that he mounted the chief gunner's stand and looked through the sight and watched the adjustment of the piece to the range markings.

Remove Mule's Bray.
The secretary visited a remount depot, which for the most part consisted of immense mule stables. It is here that the Americans have taken up French veterinary practices, extracting the "bray" from a mule by a slight surgical operation on the nose, so that the silvery bray, which can be heard a mile or two upon silent nights at the front will become a harmless whinny—not enough to awaken the enemy and draw his shell fire.

Mr. Baker visited recently wounded Americans, and talked with them. He listened to some personal accounts of the men's experiences. At the end of the day, back aboard the train, General Pershing, in discussing the visit, said:

"I have long urged the secretary to come to France. Now that he is here we are delighted that he means to take the time to master the details of our situation, as our chief who carries all our military effort at home and abroad in his mind. He is seeing with his own eyes what we are doing on this side and his visit is a personal inspiration to every officer and man."

Baker's Statement.
Secretary Baker said to the correspondent:

"These days have been worth my trip across the Atlantic in the information and encouragement which they have given me. I have seen only the effort in two ports, only the receding depots of the great war plant which we are constructing. But I have seen enough to convince me that we now have an organization which will meet the problem with its increasing volume of demand, of coping with the ports of embarkation at home with the ports of debarcation in France."

"I find that the written reports have given me an inadequate idea of the difficulties, which the enemy said we could not overcome and which we are overcoming."

CAPTURE SLAV PLANES
(By Review Leased Wire)
AMSTERDAM, March 16.—A telegram from Berlin to the Koelnische Volks Zeitung states that the Germans found 15 Russian airplanes in the harbor of Odessa when that city was occupied.

PERSHING REPORTS EIGHT AMERICANS KILLED IN ACTION

19 Others Die From Various Causes in France; No Severely Wounded Mentioned in Latest Report.

WASHINGTON, March 16.—Eighty-five names, including those of nine officers—one killed in action, one in an accident and seven slightly wounded—were contained in the casualty list issued today by the war department. The list was divided as follows:

Killed in action, 8; died of wounds, 2; died of accidents, 6; died of disease, 10; died from undetermined cause, 1; slightly wounded, 58.

It was explained at the department that with two or three exceptions the names in the list were cabled today by General Pershing. The exceptions were names held over from yesterday's casualty report because of difficulties in checking. Most of the forty odd names held up yesterday, however, were those of men recommended for promotion or mentioned in various activities for the expeditionary forces. They at first were taken to be casualties.

Today's list, the first in weeks to contain the names of no man severely wounded, follows:

Killed in action: Lieutenant John Norman, Sergeant Louis E. Lefevre, Corporal Leo H. Rogers; Privates Fred M. Eager, Charles L. E. Laguzin, Claude W. Newell, Stowe Pettit, Oscar Swartz.

Died of wounds: Corporal Marvin Bunn; Private Dan F. Bracella.

Died of disease: Corporals Ignatius Fleming, Walter E. Fure, Herbert H. Krambus, Percy Stone; Bowditch; Privates Will Galloway, Charles M. Hocrain, Theophile Joseph Proul, Chas. R. Tapscott, Frank Harrison Welch; Wagoner Arthur E. Fisher.

Died of accidents: Lieutenant Andrew Carl Ortmyer; Corporal Clifford J. Stevens; Privates John J. Brannon, Peter Cuzim, George Mock, John E. Hawkins.

Died of cause unknown: Sergeant Byrd W. Penrod.

Among those wounded slightly are: Major John W. Downer, Captain Harry B. Whitney; Lieutenants Blake H. Cooley, Herbert J. Jones, Donald G. MacLellan, Frank M. Mitchell, Warren A. Ransom.

CONVICTED OF BLACKMAIL
ATLANTA, Ga., March 16.—Mrs. M. A. Hirsch was convicted today of an attempt to extort \$500,000 from Mayor Chandler by blackmail.

HOLLAND NOW WILLING

WASHINGTON, March 15.—Holland, on the eve of her shipping being taken over by the United States and Great Britain has given evidence of a readiness to make a voluntary agreement to that purpose, even agreeing that the ships shall be sent through the war zone.

In view of the continued pressure upon The Netherlands by Germany in opposition to such a step, officials here were mystified at the sudden change in the situation and began to speculate upon what arrangements Holland might have made with Berlin.

It was stated in official quarters that Holland probably would make liberal concessions to Germany when she turns the ships over to the allies but it was feared that the sudden acquiescence with the long opposed provision that the ships be sent through

PEACE PACT IS RATIFIED BY RUSSIANS AT CONGRESS

Soviets Approve Agreements With Germany by Majority Vote; Decide to Form Army From Both Sexes.

(By Review Leased Wire)
MOSCOW, March 16.—The all-Russian congress of soviets has ratified the peace agreement with Germany by a large majority.

A Bolshevik resolution approving the acts of the government of the workmen and soldiers delegates and of the peace delegation and calling for organization of the defense of the country by the creation of a national army of both sexes was passed after Lenin's restoration of peace among the warring factions and his statement that the treaty might be broken under changed circumstances. The opposition notably the social revolutionaries of the left, made a valiant, but futile effort to prevent the acceptance of the treaty, which was characterized by the minister of justice as being "anti-revolutionary and anti-socialist."

He stated that the social revolutionary party repudiated the responsibility for the acceptance of the treaty, would resign from the government and devote all its power and influence to the organization of armed resistance to German imperialism.

War Summary

Russia has bowed to the Central Powers. The hard terms of the peace treaty submitted by the Germans at Brest-Litovsk have been agreed to by all-Russian congress of Soviets, in session at Moscow, in spite of the opposition of an important element of the Russian people.

The result of the vote was forecast in the announcement from Moscow on Friday that the Bolshevik delegates to the Moscow congress had, at a party caucus voted in favor of ratification. The message sent by President Wilson to the congress in which he expressed his sympathy with the Russian people, was read at the opening session on Thursday night. It was received with marked enthusiasm and a reply embodying a resolution of appreciation was sent to the American people. That there was spirited opposition to the ratification of the treaty is evidenced by reports that trouble broke out Friday between the Bolsheviks and social revolutionaries of the left, who have been representing the council of people's commissaries.

No Change in West.
The military situation on the French Belgian front has shown no marked change in the last 24 hours. The most notable development was the increasing activity by the British on the old Arras front from Arras itself as far south as St. Quentin, reported by Berlin. Apparently the British long range guns were doing effective work some distance behind the German lines in Flanders as well, for the German statement complaints of casualties among the population of Menin and Halluin—more than five miles in advance of the British front southeast of Ypres—caused by British shell fire and airplane bombs.

Both German and French reports show that heavy artillery fire has been in progress in the Verdun region and that there has been brisk work by the batteries near Rheims, on the Lorraine front and in Alsace. No change in the situation in the American sector in Lorraine has been indicated though Paris reports a German raid in the vicinity of Florey near the American sector, northwest of Toul, which was repulsed.

It was stated that if Holland desires to turn over the shipping on terms already laid down, by voluntary agreement it would be considered very agreeable but that they must be taken over on Monday, at all events, on the final terms presented to The Hague by the American and British diplomatic representatives.

DILLON PLEADS FOR IRELAND

(By Review Leased Wire)
ENNISKILLEN, Ireland, March 16.—John Dillon, who succeeded John Redmond as leader of the Irish National Union, replying to congratulatory addresses today, said his first task would be to tell England before the world

20 PERSONS BURNED TO DEATH

TRURO, N. S., March 16.—Twenty persons were burned to death in a fire which destroyed a lumber camp at Alvin Siding on the Canadian government railroad fifteen miles from here today. Of those in the camp only four persons, including the owner, A. A. Sutherland, and his son, Max, escaped. The fire started from

an unknown cause in a dormitory occupied by lumbermen, all of whom were sleeping. All the occupants of the dormitory, including the wife and six children of one of the workmen, were burned to death in their beds.

The Sutherlands occupied an apartment separate from the dormitory.